

Remarks

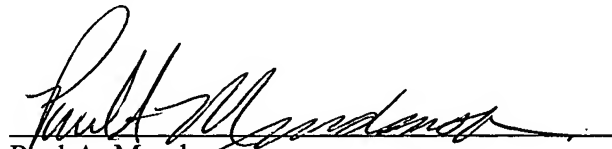
Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. No claims have been amended, added or canceled herein. Claims 1-3 and 11-15 have been withdrawn. Thus, claims 4-10 and 16-36 are pending.

The Office Action identified three claim groups corresponding to three inventions. Applicants elect Claim Group 2 including claims 4-10 and 16-36 without traverse. The claims of Claim Group 1 (1-3) and of Claim Group III (11-15) have been withdrawn.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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